



## For-Hire Information Sheet

This information sheet gives an overview of key provisions that apply to **for-hire vehicles** with the passage of Ordinance #124524. Please reference Ordinance #124524 or SMC 6.310 for the complete requirements and responsibilities for operating a for-hire company or for-hire affiliated vehicle.

If you have questions, please email [taxicab@seattle.gov](mailto:taxicab@seattle.gov) or call (206) 386-1267.

### Vehicle: For-Hire

(Full requirements can be found at: SMC 6.310.130 & 6.310.320 – .335)

- For-hire vehicle license is required (SMC 6.310.130).
- For-hire vehicle must be equipped with a monitored silent alarm (SMC 6.310.320S).
- As of first license renewal after effective date of the ordinance, the hood, roof, and trunk must be painted a color distinct from the yellow, orange or green used by taxicabs. The hood, roof and trunk of new vehicles must be painted a color distinct from the yellow, orange or green used by taxicabs (SMC 6.310.320.O).
- City for-hire vehicle licenses shall transition to a medallion system in 2015 (SMC 6.310.135).
- Insurance must be filed with the City of Seattle with minimum bodily injury liability limits of \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident and \$25,000 property damage; and underinsured motorist limits of \$100,000 per person and \$300,000 per accident any time the TNC vehicle is active on the TNC dispatch system (SMC 6.310.300).
- For-hire vehicle must pass a uniform vehicle safety inspection by an ASE-certified mechanic approved by the City of Seattle (SMC 6.310.330.J).
- For-hire vehicle model year can be no more than ten years prior to the license date (SMC 6.310.325.F).
- A decal must be affixed to the windshield of the for-hire vehicle.

### Driver: For-Hire

(Full requirements can be found at: SMC 6.310.400 – .470)

- For-hire driver must hold a valid license (SMC 6.310.130).
- A temporary for-hire driver license shall be issued within two business days to an applicant who has filed a complete license application (SMC 6.310.400 - .425).
- A for-hire driver shall allow the City to inspect the for-hire vehicle without notice at any reasonable time or place (SMC 6.310.450.G).
- Daily trips records must be accurate and complete (SMC 6.310.460.F).
- For-hire drivers shall report to the taxicab associations all trip records and other required records (SMC 6.310.540).

### Rates

- If using an application dispatch system, rates shall be transparent to the passengers (SMC 6.310.530.B).



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- For-hire vehicle company must file all non-application dispatch system rates and charges, including rates structures that vary by time of day, with the City (SMC 6.310.530.B2).

### Operation: For-Hire Drivers

(Full requirements can be found at: SMC 6.310.400 – .470)

- A for-hire driver shall complete a safety checklist as prescribed by rule to verify that vehicle and equipment are operating properly (SMC 6.310.450.C).
- A for-hire driver in a for-hire vehicle may solicit passengers only from the driver's seat or standing immediately adjacent to vehicle (within 12 feet) and only when the vehicle is safely and legally parked—but not from taxicab zones (SMC 6.310.470.B).
- For-hire vehicle drivers shall not be in control of a for-hire vehicle for more than 12 hours in a 15-hour span during any 24-hour period. Total hours include operating TNC vehicles, taxicabs, or for-hire vehicles (SMC 6.310.452.B).
- Evidence of vehicle insurance must be in the for-hire vehicle (SMC 6.310.452.D).
- For-hire vehicle drivers shall submit trip records weekly to for-hire vehicle companies and provide all other records required (SMC 6.310.540).

### Company: For-Hire Vehicle

(Full requirements can be found at: SMC 6.310)

- Maintain records for two years and report quarterly (SMC 6.310.540).
- Collect and remit to City Wheelchair Accessible Surcharge Fund fees of \$0.10 per trip (SMC 6.310.175).

### Fees

(Full fees can be found at: SMC 6.310.150)

- Annual Seattle for-hire vehicle license fee: \$500.
- Seattle for-hire driver license fee: \$50.
- City of Seattle business license fees.

### Penalties

(Full penalties can be found at: SMC 6.310.600 to 635)

- Unlicensed operation minimum: \$513 fine first offense; misdemeanor second offense in five years (SMC 6.310.600.A).
- If issued a violation, suspension or revocation, licensee may request a hearing within 10 days by contacting the Consumer Affairs office located at 805 S Dearborn St, Seattle, WA 98134. Instructions are on the reverse side of the Notice of Violation or License Action Form.
- If issued a Notice of Infraction, licensee must respond within 15 days from date issued. Instructions will be on the reverse side of the Notice of Infraction and payments or requests for hearings are processed by Seattle Municipal Court.

*This information sheet should not be used as a substitute for codes and regulations. The applicant is responsible for compliance with all code and rule requirements, whether or not described above.*